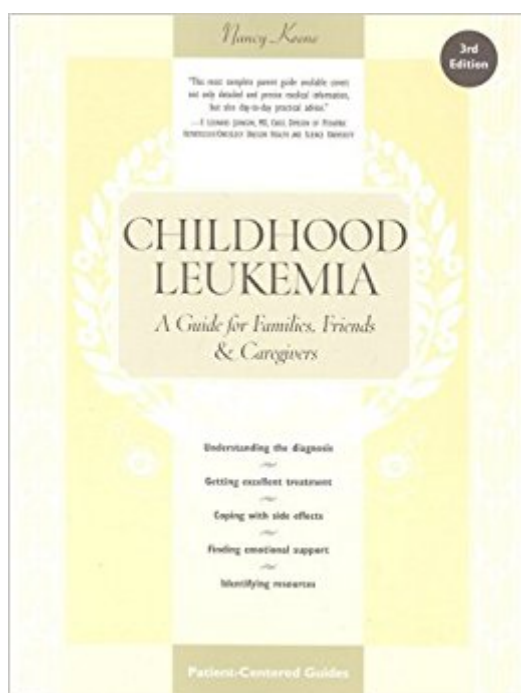


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# Childhood Leukemia: A Guide For Families, Friends And Caregivers (3rd Edition)



## Synopsis

This most complete parent guide covers not only detailed and precise medical information about leukemia and the various treatment options, but also day-to-day practical advice on how to cope with procedures, hospitalization, family and friends, school, social and financial issues, communication, feelings, and, if therapy is not successful, the difficult issues of death and bereavement. Woven among the medical details and the practical advice are the voices of parents and children who have lived with leukemia and its treatments. As many parents have already found, advice from "veteran" parents can be a lifeline. Obtaining a basic understanding of topics such as medical terminology, how drugs work, common side effects of chemotherapy, and how to work more effectively with medical personnel can only improve the quality of life for the whole family suffering along with their leukemic child. Having parents describe their own emotional ups and downs, how they coped, and how they molded their family life around hospitalizations can be a tremendous comfort. Just knowing that there are other kids on chemotherapy who refuse to eat anything but tacos or who have frequent rages can make one feel less alone. Parents who read this book will encounter medical facts simply explained, advice to ease their daily life, and tools to be a strong advocate for their child. This third edition contains significant updates to the information on treatments, chemotherapy drugs, bone marrow transplants, coping with side effects, and resources. It also contains a personal treatment summary and long-term follow-up guide for your child to keep as a permanent record.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

"Keene has written a comprehensive handbook to serve as a road map for others, from diagnosis through treatment." *Library Journal*, \*starred\* review and chosen for the prestigious Nursing Your Children's Health Collection "This most complete parent guide available covers not only detailed and precise medical information about leukemia and the various treatment options from chemotherapy to bone marrow transplantation, but also day-to-day practical advice." *F. Leonard Johnson, M.D. Chief, Division of Pediatric Hematology/Oncology Oregon Health Sciences University* "What's compelling about *Childhood Leukemia: A Guide for Families, Friends, and Caregivers* is the amount of useful medical information and practical advice it contains. As the mother of a two-time survivor of ALL-yes it can recur, in my daughter's case after a 14-year remission-I can vouch that the road to cure is bumpy, filled with life-threatening complications and requiring aggressive in-hospital care. Keene spells it all out. A valuable resource to help parents and children regain their equilibrium after diagnosis and during the two to three years of treatment." *Patricia Dane Rogers, The Washington Post* "This wonderful book is an informative addition to the House library, and one we will recommend wholeheartedly. By providing this resource to the children and families staying here, you enable them to find a bit of hope and peace of mind in a time of great difficulty and confusion." *Peggy Enright, House Director, Boston Ronald McDonald House* "Of all the many kinds of help we had (and we had lots) *Childhood Leukemia* was the single best gift we received. It was the gift of knowledge, so we could ask intelligent questions about our daughter's care. It was the gift of security, allowing us to foresee much of what was coming, and giving us the tools we needed to cope. And it was the gift of hope, for we could see that many children do, indeed, get through this trying time, and come through the grueling treatment intact." *Kim Warren, parent of a child with leukemia (one of dozens of thank-you letters sent to the author)* "Faced with a diagnosis of a life threatening disease, parents of a newly diagnosed child with leukemia often struggle to understand the facts and explanations of the disease and treatment they face, while at the same time dealing with overwhelming feelings of fear, confusion and isolation. The great value of Nancy Keene's exceptional book is that it puts the facts and explanations into understandable terms while acknowledging and dealing with the emotional aspects as only parents who have had similar experience, can. This combination of science, clinical facts and humanism is a potent weapon for both new and seasoned parents who must travel this demanding path. It is also of enormous value

to those of us who try to help parents understand and cope as our professional obligation." — Mark L. Greenberg, MD Professor of Paediatrics and Surgery, University of Toronto Senior Staff Oncologist, Hospital for Sick Children Chair, Paediatric Oncology Group of Ontario (POGO)"Childhood Leukemia is the very best book on the subject that I have read, and I've read everything I could put my hands on. It is absolutely correct in the subject matter it covers and the approach. I wish someone had put a copy in my hands the day after the diagnosis. It literally will be a life-saving book." — Rebecca Laird, parent (one of dozens of thank-you letters sent to the author)"This book is an invaluable reference for children, their family and their health care providers. It provides important information written in ways families can understand. Ms. Keene presents difficult and sometimes troubling information in a sensitive and balanced manner. I highly recommend it for patients, family members and health care providers." — Debra L. Friedman, MD Director, Division of Hematology-Oncology E. Bronson Ingram Chair in Pediatric Oncology Vanderbilt Children's Hospital"Our 7-year-old daughter was diagnosed with ALL. We were immediately given a copy of your book by the hospital. Initially, we were reluctant to open it and face the information inside. However, once we decided to pull our heads from the sand, we have found Childhood Leukemia to be our absolute bible. Not only do we use it for general information, but we rely heavily on this book for reassurance in times of crisis (real or potential). I cannot imagine not having the information so close at hand and so well organized." — Jocelyn Hillman Mother of a leukemia survivor Board Member, Alex's Lemonade Stand Foundation "This is the most comprehensive resource available for parents and caregivers of children diagnosed with leukemia. These families must become immediate experts and Childhood Leukemia: A Guide for Families, Friends & Caregivers presents up-to-date information in understandable language. Parents find the vignettes helpful, comforting and encouraging. We believe so strongly in this book that a copy is given to each family." — Mary McSherry, ACSW, LSW Social Worker, Division of Oncology, The Children's Hospital of Philadelphia "This book is an extraordinary resource. In its pages the reader will find clear, concise, and understandable information about childhood leukemia. And even more powerfully, the reader will "hear" the voices of parents who share their experiences in their own words: what worked, what didn't, what helped, what hurt. Families, friends, and caregivers who use this book will have information and support at their fingertips, and a powerful tool with which to help young people with leukemia get what they need to claim their lives in spite of this disease and the toll it takes." — Kathy Ruccione, PhD, MPH, RN Co-Director of the HOPE (Hematology-Oncology Psychosocial and Education) Program Children's Hospital of Los Angeles "I highly recommend Childhood Leukemia to all families of children with leukemia. It is an

immediate help for the newly diagnosed parent and a comprehensive reference for the subsequent years of treatment. This book covers everything-and I mean everything-that a parent needs to know about the issues surrounding treatment for childhood leukemia. It amazes me that for a disease as rare as childhood leukemia, someone as talented a writer as Nancy took the time to write such a complete and useful book."

•Patty Feist, MS Parent a survivor of ALL, Webmaster, Pediatric Oncology Resource Center "Childhood Leukemia was and is an invaluable resource for me. I discovered it a few months into my daughter's leukemia journey and have read and reread it. When Katie was first diagnosed I was told mountains of information, but was unable to absorb much of it due to the initial shock of having a child with cancer. Having all that information and much more at my fingertips has been a huge help. Sometimes it helped me just to know what questions to ask. Even now, months after treatment has ended, I continue to refer to the book for information about the different drugs that were used; I also use the book to help other parents who have questions."

•Pat Lee Mother of a leukemia survivor "Nancy Keene, whose daughter survived childhood leukemia, offers help and support in this comprehensive guide for families, friends, and health care providers of childhood leukemia patients. Leukemia Society staff and volunteers regularly use this guide as a valuable reference tool. 'This is an excellent guide for living and coping with childhood leukemia,' says Hildy Dillon, Director of the Information Resource Center at the Leukemia Society of America."

•NewsLine Leukemia and Lymphoma Society "This is the definitive book for lay people, parents of children with cancer, and survivors of childhood cancer themselves. We routinely provide a copy to all of our patients and families who are enrolled in our long-term survivor follow-up clinic for their education. It's a treasure chest of information."

•Sharon B. Murphy, MD Chief, Division of Hematology/Oncology Children's Memorial Hospital Chicago, IL "I am the great grandmother to a little four-year-old girl who has the type of leukemia known as ALL

| I am 90 years old and was a bookseller for 25 years | Your book is so complete and so helpful in every way, that I couldn't resist sending you my compliments for writing it. Bless you."

•Alice H. Sobey (one of dozens of thank-you letters sent to the author) --This text refers to an out of print or unavailable edition of this title.

This most complete parent guide available covers not only detailed and precise medical information about leukemia and the various treatment options, but also day-to-day practical advice on how to cope with procedures, hospitalization, family and friends, school, social and financial issues, communication, feelings and, if therapy is not successful, the difficult issues of death and bereavement. Woven among the medical details and the practical advice are the voices of parents

and children who have lived with leukemia and its treatments. As many parents have already found, advice from "veteran" parents can be a lifeline. Obtaining a basic understanding of topics such as medical terminology, how drugs work, common side effects of chemotherapy, and how to work more effectively with medical personnel can only improve the quality of life for the whole family suffering along with their leukemic child. Having parents describe their own emotional ups and downs, how they coped, and how they molded their family life around hospitalizations can be a tremendous comfort. Just knowing that there are other kids on chemotherapy who refuse to eat anything but tacos or who have frequent rages can make one feel less alone. Our hope is that parents who read this book will encounter medical facts simply explained, will find advice that eases their daily life, and will feel empowered to be a strong advocate for their child. --This text refers to an out of print or unavailable edition of this title.

This book is a fantastic resource for any family, friends of, educators, etc - anyone dealing with childhood leukemia in their lives. My nephew was diagnosed with ALL when he was 2 years old and right away, I needed to know more about what we were all dealing with. This book educated me on all of the facts, medication and treatments and experiences we might face as a family. Not only do you learn what leukemia is all about and how chemotherapy treatments will go, but you also learn how to deal psychologically with everything happening. The whole world seems to change when you or your family is impacted with such a terminal illness and a lot of people may not know how to deal or what to expect. This book HELPS - IT REALLY HELPS. I recommend it to anyone and everyone who wants to know more about childhood leukemia, any family who is directly impacted and any caretakers, teachers, counselors who may encounter those experiencing this illness.... THIS BOOK IS WORTH EVERY PENNY and MORE.

This is an excellent and updated source of information for parents and family members of children fighting this disease. Our daughter's doctor gave us the printed version and I decided to buy the e-book to have it handy on my electronic devices.

This is an excellent book. If you are finished with your copy, please give it to someone in the waiting room with you next time you take your child in for chemo. Or better yet, buy a new one now and give it to someone who has a newly diagnosed child. Enjoy watching your donation change someone's experience for the better first hand. My grandson Jonnie, who has leukemia, also has a charity that benefits patients at Children's Hospital Los Angeles. We donate these books and also toys. Send a

book there in his name. If you need to see bone marrow aspiration photos go to [...] These photos take the fear away for some kids who experience the procedure, but never get to see it done. This disease is rare. We're very lucky to have a book like this. Let's do what we can to see that everyone who can use it has a copy.

The book is very informative but simple enough for the common joe. Tells what to expect, what to prepare for and how to respond to different phases of the sickness and treatment, as well as different situations that may happen. And it helps keep you optimistic while still being realistic about your child's prognosis. It shares parent's reactions, the pain, and the determination to save their child... things which you will be able to relate to and will remind you that your child and you are not the only ones facing this situation.

Highly recommend for anyone dealing with this particular struggle. Well written and super clear. Should be given as guide to people new to the ailment.

This book is very informative for a parent whose child was recently diagnosed with Leukemia. It helped to make sense what the Dr.'s were telling me. Easy to read.

Most helpful for families with new diagnosis in family. Has helped us a lot already, and unfortunately will guide us for the next two years.

This is a must have for a leukemia family. It covered lots of things I had questions about and also helped me to know what might be coming. It was also nice to read feelings that other parents had that I could relate to. I would highly recommend this.

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